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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Eberswalde

EVALUATION see below

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DATE OF CONTENT 27 October to 16 November 1953

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DATE PREPARED

8 December 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 13 November 1953, the Schuetzen Kaserne in Eberswalde was occupied about 75 percent by about 3,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and a few tank insignia.

2. On 13 November, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 2,500 to 3,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery and motor transport insignia.

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3. On 13 November, the cantonment on Breitscheidt Strasse was occupied to capacity by about 500 to 600 troops wearing blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. Sources did not observe any training activity in the barracks installation on 12 November. Seven trucks were lined up in the yard. Between 9 and 13 November, 2 one-story quartering buildings and 1 shed were erected in the barracks area. On 13 November, about 200 troops and 11 trucks were lined up in the barracks yard and in front of the sheds.

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4. At about 11:30 a.m. on 7 November, about 100 troops wearing blue-bordered black and red-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia, left the cantonment on Breitscheidt Strasse for the monument at the Russian cemetery on Freiwaller Strasse. At about 6 p.m. on 14 November, 3 trucks, one carrying straw mattresses, the second baggage and the third about 35 troops, left the installation. At about 6:30 p.m. on the same day and, at about 6 p.m. on 15 and 16 November, three trucks, loaded as stated above, left the installation toward the railroad station.

5. On 13 November, the Schuetzen Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. On 12 November, about 400 troops were seen drilling on the drill ground. On 12 November, an undetermined number of troops received instruction on 24 sides of the drill.

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6. Between 5 and 11 November, source continually observed that trained personnel departed from, and recruits arrived at, the Schuetzen Kaserne and the Artillerie Kaserne in Eberswalde. While the recruits entered the installation in groups of 50 to 150 men and by foot, trained personnel with baggage was trucked to the station in groups of about 40 men; they left toward Frankfurt/Oder aboard passenger trains.
7. At 2 p.m. on 7 November, 3 generals, 20 officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia and a few blue-bordered black and black-bordered black epaulets; a military band of 15 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 800 troops and about 30 officers carrying about 25 wreaths, all coming from the Artillerie Kaserne, and 1 colonel and 15 other officers, 600 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and about 100 troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets, carrying 12 wreaths, and coming from the Schuetzen Kaserne were seen during a wreath **laying** ceremony at the monument on Freienwalder Strasse. Twelve sedans with wreaths arrived from Ebersberger Strasse. 25X1B
8. On 11 November, the Schuetzen Kaserne was occupied by about 4,100 troops. On 6 November, 3 searchlights on motor vehicles, 25X1B entered the east section of the installation. At 10:15 a.m. on 7 November, about 2,500 troops and a 25-piece band; and about 600 troops from the west section of the installation were lined up for a parade at the drill ground of the installation. At about 1 p.m., 100 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered black epaulets marched to Ebersberger Strasse and, at 1:30 p.m., 600 troops went to the monument. On 9 and 10 November, each 30 recruits, wearing red-bordered black epaulets and coming from the direction of the railroad station, were seen entering the east section of the installation. On 10 November, an armored personnel carrier left the installation toward Tramp and an undetermined number of troops **attended** vehicles in front of the vehicle sheds.
9. On 11 November, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 4,000 troops. On 6 November, truck 25X1B occupied by 15 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying baggage, entered the west section of the installation. At about 5:30 p.m., 150 recruits, wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying baggage, entered the installation. On 7 November, 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and preceded by a military band of 15 soldiers left the installation for the monument. 25X1B
10. On 11 November, the cantonment on Breitscheidt Strasse was occupied by about 500 troops. Sentries seen wore black-bordered black epaulets. On 9 November, about 25 troops were maintaining motor vehicles and 20 troops engaged in physical training in the barracks area. On 11 November, the cantonment at Duesterwinkelbruscke was occupied by about 600 to 800 troops. Source determined 60 trucks in the installation area. Truck 25X1B was observed en route to the installation.
11. On 9 November, source determined that the AAA emplacement at Westend was occupied by 6 x 85-mm AA guns. 25X1X
12. Between 27 October and 14 November, discharges departed from, and recruits arrived at, the barracks installations in Eberswalde. Source stated that town leave had been severely restricted as regards number of soldiers and time granted and that curfew for EM was at 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. 25X1B
13. On 14 November, the Schuetzen Kaserne was occupied by about 3,500 troops and a headquarters of about 500 troops. On 8 November, about 20 recruits wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen leaving the installation. 25X1B

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14. On 14 November, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 3,700 to 4,000 troops. On 8 November, rather little activity was observed in the barracks area.

15. On 14 November, the cantonment on Breitscheid Strasse was occupied to capacity by about 500 troops. On 7 November, 60 unarmed recruits wearing blue-bordered black epaulets entered the installation and, on 8 November, 90 troops wearing blue-bordered black epaulets and including 45 recruits left the installation.

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16. On 3 November, trucks [] were seen en route to and from the Britz cantonment.

17. On 28 October, a shipment of 6 boxcars occupied by about 200 officers and NCOs wearing red-bordered black epaulets was seen in Eberswalde, proceeding toward Bad Freienwalde at about 4 p.m. The following troop trains arrived in Eberswalde from the direction of Bad Freienwalde:

28 October. At about 9 a.m., 30 boxcars occupied by about 1,200 recruits wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia and blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia.

29 October. At about 9 a.m., 48 boxcars occupied by about 1,800 recruits wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets; and 6 kitchen cars.

7 November. At about 10 a.m., 15 boxcars occupied by about 600 recruits wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

At about 4 p.m., an undetermined number of flatcars attached to a freight train and carrying 16 factory-new [] trucks which, source believed, were radio trucks.

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9 November. At about 3:30 p.m., an undetermined number of flatcars and gondola cars carrying 60 factory-new trucks []

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18. Source determined that Lieutenant Nicolai Vaso, who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets, was stationed in Eberswalde prior to 11 November. Vaso stated that he was polit officer with a unit stationed in Eberswalde, and that, according to a directive of October, Soviet officers will be stationed in East Germany for 5 years, instead of 3 years as previously.² He further stated that, as a result of the frequent excesses, the officers and troops of the Eberswalde post were no longer permitted to visit German restaurants after 30 October. Curfew for EM was at 3 p.m.

19. At about 2 p.m. on 14 November, a shipment of 5 T-34/85 tanks and 3 boxcars occupied by troops passed through the Eberswalde railroad station, coming from the direction of Frankfurt/Oder and proceeding toward Bernau. The tanks were newly painted []

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20. Source expressed the belief that, on 15 November, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Source determined that troops engaged exclusively in interior duties.

21. On 15 November, the Schuetzen Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Source did not observe any training or vehicular traffic.³

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1. [] Comment. The troop shipments are rather safely believed to have gone to, and arrived from, the Himmelpfort railroad station, in the vicinity of which the barracks installation on Castaven Lake served as assembly and distribution point for personnel of the Second Gds Necz Army.

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- 25X1A 2. [] Comment. Although no documentary information on the previous and present term of service in East Germany for officers is available, the statements by the unknown Lieutenant Nicolai Vaso appear credible.
- 25X1A 3. [] Comment. The information fails to indicate any changes in the occupation of the military installations in Eberswalde during the period prior to 16 November over the preceding reports by the same sources. [] 25X1A
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